

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 6-9 are pending. The support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in the published specification at [0008] and [0044]. No new matter has been added.

It was indicated on p.4 of the May 11, 2009 Office Action that, “it has been determined that the claims would be allowable should the broader range of 5 to 200 parts by mass be added to the instant claim 1, thus removing the WO 03/04267 document as art.” The Applicants have amended the claims accordingly in order to remove WO 03/04267 as prior art.

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inatomi et al. (WO 03/04267). (Office Action, page 2)

Claim 1 has been amended to remove WO 03/04267 as prior art based on the priority document JP2002-367487. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inatomi et al. (WO 03/04267) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Helbing (WO 99/60043). (Office Action, page 3)

Claim 1 has been amended to remove WO 03/04267 as prior art, with respect to claim 8, based on the priority document JP2002-367487. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inatomi et al. (WO 03/04267) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Saito et al. (US 2002/0091224). (Office Action, page 3)

Claim 1 has been amended to remove WO 03/04267 as prior art, with respect to claim 9, based on the priority document JP2002-367487. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Dated: August 4, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 21874

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